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PADSTOW,

August, 1926.

To the Padstow Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my sixth annual report as Medical Officer of Health to your Council for the year 1925.

Population 1,658. Area of the District 186 acres.

PHYSICAL FEATURES. The district is situated on the estuary of the River Camel, on the West and South is surrounded by wooded slopes, to the North and East it is open to the estuary and the sand hills of St. Minver. The prevailing winds are the S.W. most of the year and the N. from January to April. The climate is mild, but rainfall not above the average.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS. The chief industries of the district are fishing, those connected with agriculture and coastal shipping, the latter now has become very much less than formerly owing to general shipping depression and silting up with sand of the harbour.

Number of Inhabited Houses 435.

Sum represented by ld rate £27-0s-0d.

VITAL STATISTICS. Births 27: Males 9; Females 18.

Legitimate: Males 9; Females 17.

Illegitimate: Males 0; Females 1.

Birth Rate 16.28 per 1,000.

Deaths: 15; Males 7; Females 8.

Death Rate 11.55 per 1,000.

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INFANTILE MORTALITY. There was only one death, an infant under one year, giving a death rate of .66 per 1,000.

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ASTOR LENOX TILDEN FOUNDATION

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the matter of the purchase of the book "The History of the United States" by John Adams. The book is now in the hands of the printer and will be ready for delivery in about two weeks. I am sorry that I cannot deliver it to you at once, but I am sure you will understand the necessity of this delay. The book is a very valuable one and I am sure you will find it very interesting. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. M. Smith

Number of copies ordered 100

Sum enclosed \$10.00

VITAL STATISTICS. Births, Deaths, Marriages, etc.
For the year 1900.
Published by the Registrar-General.
London: H.M.S.O. 1901.
Price 1s. 6d.

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POOR LAW RELIEF. Owing to general depression in trade, there has been an increase in Poor Law Relief, but now with the Widows' Pensions' Act coming into force there should be some diminution.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES. There is no Isolation Hospital for Notifiable Infectious Diseases occurring in the Urban District, but one hopes that in the near future some joint scheme with other districts may be evolved. Tubercular cases are admitted to the Sanatorium at Tehidy if suitable.

There is now limited accommodation for Maternity Cases at Redruth Hospital.

GENERAL HOSPITALS. Cases requiring Hospital treatment are sent to South Devon and East Cornwall Hospital, Plymouth; Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro, and the East Cornwall Hospital, Bodmin.

AMBULANCE. The district is served by the St. John Ambulance Company at Bodmin, their motor ambulance with trained staff, being available at any hour day or night. This service is much appreciated and the work is carried out most efficiently and skilfully.

CLINICS. There are no Maternity or Infant Welfare Centres in the District.

VENEREAL DISEASES. These are treated, if necessary, at the Special Clinics at Plymouth.

LOCAL SANITATION. Owing to general sanitary conditions, there is no increase in cases of typhoid fever, and the only cases reported are those of typhoid fever, for which there is no special treatment.

GENERAL TREATMENT OF TYPHOID FEVER. There is no special treatment for typhoid fever, but the patient should be kept in bed and given plenty of food and drink. The patient should be kept cool and the bowels should be kept open. The patient should be kept quiet and the mind should be kept calm. The patient should be kept comfortable and the treatment should be continued until the patient is well.

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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF. E. A. SHIRVELL, M.O.H.

G. REED, SANITARY INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR.

W. BRABYN, WATER OFFICER.

NURSING. None for Infectious Diseases. One Midwife and General Nursing under the Cornwall County Nursing Association and managed by a Local Committee.

SANITARY INSPECTION. During the year I have, in company with the Sanitary Inspector made a tour of the Urban District. The defects found were chiefly those found in an area of this type when houses were built without so much regard to the demands of modern sanitation and hygiene. Dampness due to defective walls and roof drainage was found in several cases; some of them have been remedied. Other minor defects have been as satisfactorily dealt with as possible. The new men's and women's lavatory on the North Quay is clean and well-looked-after; the men's lavatory on the South Quay is not always as clean as could be wished, but it has received attention recently and is now satisfactory.

PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS. These are in a good general and sanitary condition; the playgrounds are to be tarred, which will eliminate the danger of dust. It has not been necessary to close for notifiable diseases.

SCAVENGING. This is carried out by contract. House refuse is collected twice weekly and spread out on suitably-situated fields. It would be more sanitary if householders would use refuse bins with covers.

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GENERAL HEALTH. Dispite a year of much rain and little sun, the general health of the area has been good. No serious epidemic has occurred.

WATER SUPPLY. There have been difficulties in maintaining an adequate supply of water in the higher parts of the district at certain times. The additional population during the summer season, particularly at Trevone, and the large quantities necessary during the fishing season for ice manufacturing and cleansing of fish markets being the chief cause, but it is hoped in the near future that the bringing in of a new supply will materially help to solve the difficulty. The quality of water is good for all purposes.

NEW HOUSES. Three new houses have been built for private owners during the year. No working class dwellings have been erected or even commenced.

GENERAL HOUSING. The need of new houses for the working class is most urgent. Overcrowding exists of a most deplorable nature. Many existing houses are old, ill-ventilated and saturated with the damp and grime of many years. Thee present woners do all that is possible, but the general condition of the buildings renders it impossible to make them satisfactory. It is most surprising that the health of those who live in some of these houses is as good as it is. One sees in adjoining districts decent houses erected, but Padstow lags badly behind. I beg the members of the Council to take immediate steps to seriously consider the position and provide decent houses so that the slums of Padstow may be eliminated with all their attendant evils.

GENERAL INVESTIGATION The first of the two cases is the case of the

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FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS. No new factories and workshops have been opened during the year. Existing ones have been inspected and found satisfactory and conforming to regulations.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE. There has been no epidemic of notifiable disease. One case of Encephalitis Lethargica was notified which terminated fatally.

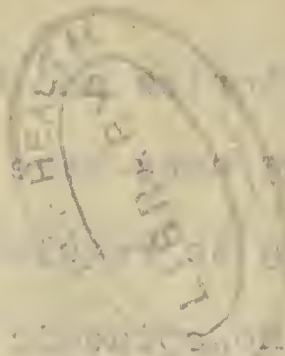
TUBERCULOSIS. Two cases of tuberculosis are on my quarterly register, one of which died.

MILK SUPPLY AND MEAT INSPECTION. All dairies have been inspected and found satisfactory. No licences have been issued for the sale of graded milk.

The Sanitary Inspector is the Inspector under the Act and carries out these duties as required.

E. A. SHIRVELL,

M. O. H.



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